



# Abundant Living Ministries

*Encouraging Christian Living since 1978*

January 2020

Sharon and I enjoyed the Christmas season with meaningful worship and music centered around the birth of Jesus... what a very special time of year. We had numerous family get-togethers with our children and grandchildren. The grandchildren presented a dramatic reading. Jonah, one of our grandsons, sang a solo and others played lots of music. (Monica's seven children all play instruments.) And there was plenty of good food.



At these times, I feel pretty sentimental. Gratitude to the Lord fills me as I see our children serving the Lord and teaching their children to do the same. God has been so gracious and generous toward us!



**AND NOW... 2020! I like the sound of it!** I think right away of good eyesight and accurate vision. May I, this year, see things... see *life* as HE sees it. May my vision for this year be HIS vision. May I SEE what HE is doing so that I can more-effectively partner with HIM in what HE is doing! As I say quite frequently, "Today, somewhere, somehow, with someone, I will make a difference for Christ. I will smile at a sad face, speak an encouraging word, give to a needy individual, pray for an ill person, or tell the Good News of the Gospel. Yes, somewhere, somehow, with someone, I WILL make a difference for Christ today... because I am an able minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!"

As we come to your mind, please pray for us this year, as we meet, talk, and pray with individuals and couples who are facing challenging situations and problems. There are times when the cases seem "impossible" but, with God, all things ARE possible. HE is still the one who does immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us. (Ephesians 3:20 NIV)

**We have a great year ahead!**

Our very-sincere appreciation and THANK YOU to those who participated in the November **ExtraGive** program. ALM received gifts totaling \$13,470.33 which will be used in the ongoing ministry expenses here at ALM. What a huge, tremendous help!

20/20 Vision to us all!

John Charles (for Sharon and the rest at ALM)

# FAITH

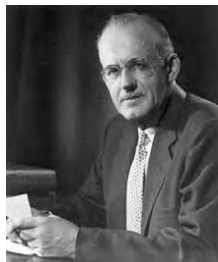
for a New Year



A new year, in fact a new decade, has just begun. As often gets asked... "How does that make you feel?" Are you filled with eager anticipation... or dread? Are you excited about what the next 12 months hold for you personally, as well as for your family? Or are you worried about possible challenges, changes, and suffering that may come?

Though none of us knows what tomorrow may bring, we, as Christians, have the certain knowledge that nothing is unknown to God or unmanageable by Him. No matter what the future holds, our loving Father will walk with us every step of the way. He will care for us, comforting and empowering in every circumstance. This is good news! This is what makes it possible for us to embark on this next year full of faith and expectancy.

I want to give you several quotes from A. W. Tozer (pastor and author who lived from 1897-1963) which remind us of the power and practicality of our Christian faith. May we all enjoy 2020 in confident faith, trusting



God with all aspects of our daily living. Come what may, we are in a safe and secure place, knowing that God loves us and watches over us... every day... and all day long!

- ♦ *The things that are of earth belong to sight, reason, and our senses. The things that are of heaven belong to faith, trust, and confidence in God. (A. W. Tozer, from The Crucified Life)*
- ♦ *Those who worship reason as their God find themselves in terrible bondage. Some things cannot be understood by reason. That is where faith takes charge. (A Disruptive Faith)*
- ♦ *If you do not know who God is and what God is like, your faith will never mount up. (Voice of a Prophet)*
- ♦ *True faith is never found alone; it is always accompanied by expectation. The man who believes the promises of God expects to see them fulfilled. Where there is no expectation there is no faith. (The Alliance Weekly/Witness, 1962)*
- ♦ *Faith comes effortlessly to the heart as we elevate our conceptions of God by a prayerful digestion of His Word. And such faith endures, for it is grounded upon the Rock. (The Alliance Weekly/Witness, 1951)*
- ♦ *When you walk out your faith each day at work in a godly fashion, you'll find that God will arrive before you do and show you the next step to take. (The Crucified Life)*



Sharon  
Charles

## Open Arms Childbirth Class

Five Consecutive Thursdays  
April 2 - 30, 2020

Taught by an experienced childbirth educator, this class covers the same information offered in a hospital course, but includes a distinctively-Christian perspective. You will meet and connect with other expectant couples and gain many practical helps as you prepare for a great labor and delivery. There is no cost for this course. Please register by contacting the ALM office (see contact information below).



## Contact Information

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